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Letter dated 25 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 4 October 2000 (A/55/454-S/2000/959), I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the National Airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 4, 5, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 October 2000.

On 4 October, one (1) F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, from a south-easterly direction, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 5 October, one (1) C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The C-160 aircraft returned later on the same day and entered once again the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 16 October, one (1) BE-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 18 October, two (2) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 October, six (6) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and, after patrolling within the Nicosia FIR, returned to the FIR of Ankara.

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On the same day (19 October), six (6) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) Two (2) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area western of Paphos before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

(b) Four (4) F-16 violated international air traffic regulations, flying within the Nicosia FIR towards the point of Kavos.

On 20 October, twenty (20) Turkish military aircraft (eighteen F-16 and two F-4) entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) Ten (10) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area western of Paphos before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

(b) Eight (8) F-16 and two (2) F-14 violated international air traffic regulations, flying within the Nicosia FIR between the Toska and Tombi points and the Kavos-Maros point, before exiting towards the FIR of Athens and the FIR of Ankara.

On 21 October, sixteen (16) F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) Twelve (12) F-16 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area western of Paphos before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

(b) Four (4) F-16 violated international air traffic regulations, flying over the southern-western area of Nicosia FIR before existing towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 22 October, two (2) F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the south-western area of the island, near the city of Paphos, at a distance of one (1) nautical mile of the coast, before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest the above actions which violate international law, as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their cessation. The Turkish Government should be reminded of its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. I would also like to express the hope that the necessary positive attitude will be shown by Turkey, so that the forthcoming round of proximity talks, as well as all efforts for finding a just and viable solution of the Cyprus problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions, will not be adversely affected.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotos **Zackheos**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative